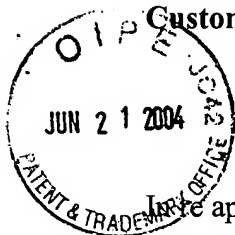


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DOCKET NO. 98-C-152C1 (STMI01-00043)

PATENT

Customer No. 30425



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor application of : DANIELLE A. THOMAS

Serial No. : 10/059,982

Filed : January 29, 2002

For : SCRATCH PROTECTION FOR DIRECT CONTACT SENSORS

Group No. : 2814

Examiner : H.B. Trinh

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JUN 24 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

**MAIL STOP PETITION**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 3, 2002, Applicant provisionally elects the claims of Species I, Figure 1, WITH TRAVERSE. Pending claims 1-9 and 14-27 read on the embodiment of Species I as depicted in Figure 1.

Every requirement to restrict has two aspects: (A) the reasons (as distinguished from the mere statement of conclusion) why the inventions as claimed are either independent or distinct; and (B) the reasons for insisting upon restriction therebetween as set forth in the following sections. MPEP § 808, p. 800-47 (8<sup>th</sup> ed. rev. 1, February 2003). The Restriction Requirement fails to state any reasons why the inventions are either independent or distinct, but instead merely asserts in

conclusory fashion that the inventions are patentably distinct.


If any issue arises, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *dvenglarik@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: 6-16-04

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel E. Venglarik  
Registration No. 39,409

P.O. Box 802432  
Dallas, Texas 75380  
Phone: (972) 628-3600  
Fax: (972) 628-3616  
E-mail: *dvenglarik@davismunck.com*